DOCKET NO.: **2354/370**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Chai.	Examiner: Maher M Haddad
Serial No.	:	10/562,778	
Filed	:	June 30, 2004	Art Unit: 1644
For	:	METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR TREATING DISORDERS OF THE EXTRACELLULAR MATRIX	

DECLARATION OF MARK EMMANUEL COOPER M.B;B.S Ph.D., UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.132

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I, Dr. Mark Emmanuel Cooper, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.132, hereby declare:

1. I am currently a Research Group Leader within the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute in Melbourne, Australia. I received my medical degree from the University of Melbourne, and have been registered as a Medical Practitioner in the state of Victoria (Australia) since 1979. My primary expertise is in the field of diabetes, and in particular the complications often associated with diabetes. I was working in both clinical and research aspects of diabetic complications at the priority date of the subject patent application (i.e. July 2003).

2. The Australian patent attorneys for the Assignee Dia-B Tech Limited have asked me to review a Declaration signed by Dr Zhonglin Chai under Rule 132. I understand that Dr Chai's Declaration is directed to various objections by the Examiner in this application, and will be submitted along with this Declaration for consideration by the Examiner.

3. I have reviewed Dr Chai's Declaration and concur with his statements regarding the use of AT1 receptor antagonists at the priority date. The agents were well known in clinical practice for the treatment of hypertension, having established safety and efficacy profiles. While many AT1 receptor antagonists were registered for clinical use at the priority date, it was not known that these agents were capable of altering the level of cell division autoantigen-1 in a kidney cell, leading to a decrease in the synthesis of extracellular matrix proteins (and therefore fibrosis).

4. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Dated: 08/04/09

Mark Emmanuel Cooper,
M.B; B.S Ph.D.